Mary Sheridan

11 October 2015

EDC 102

FAE Chapter 4

Until reading this chapter I never really realized the role philosophy plays in education. As I have never studied philosophy I was surprised to see how complex it is. I found idealism to be very interesting especially idealist’s educational beliefs. Personally, I really like the model and imitation aspect of idealism. One of the best ways I learn is through imitating others. Reading about John Locke’s belief of tabula rasa (blank tablet) reminds me of the nature nurture debate that I’ve learned about in several other of my classes. Existentialist’s idea of education seems really cool, but I’m not sure if I’d be too successful at that form of teaching. I am the type of student who likes structure and sometimes I struggle at thinking outside of the box. Now that I think about it, taking a class with existentialism would definitely better me as a student by forcing me to do something I struggle at. I think the quote, “The highest educational goal is to search for oneself” is a really smart idea and I think modern teachers should maybe think about incorporating some aspects of that style into their teaching methods today. A lot of times I think students need to find out who they are as students and from there they will find success. Lastly, pragmatism also made a lot of sense to me. I have found myself sitting in class several times and wondering how on earth does what we are learning apply to real life at all? So with that being said I definitely agree with the idea that it is crucial to present concepts as they relate to contemporary problems and questions.